(a) whether Government have introduced a new male contraceptive in order to boost family planning;

(b) if so, whether efficacy of this contraceptive and its acceptability on wider scale has been confirmed; and

(c) the other details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA): (a) to (c) The Government of India has not introduced a new male contraceptive in the country to boost Family Planning. However, restricted Phase III clinical trial of male injectable contraceptive injection "Styrene Maleic Anhydride" (RISUG) is on going at 3 centres under the guidance of ICMR, New Delhi, to study the safety, efficacy and toxicity of the drug.

Sale of Drugs through Internet

13. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a new method to sell drugs through internet has come to light;

(b) if so, the number of cases detected, so far, case-wise;

(c) how many drug dealers are involved and the action initiated against them;

(d) whether it is also a fact that all this has been going on in connivance with customs officers; and

(e) if so, whether any arrests have been made and transmits of revelations through investigations?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA): (a) to (c) As per feedback received from Department of Revenue, one such case has been detected so far in which 4 persons were arrested. They were involved in on line trading and unauthorized export of Controlled Psychotropic Substances to various foreign destinations including UK and USA. These consignments were dispatched through EMS speed post to the clients in foreign countries. Payments for these drugs were received

through credit cards. The search at the premises, of the accused resulted in the recovery and seizure of unrecorded 2654 tablets of various Controlled Psychotropic Substances.

Investigations till date have not revealed any connivance of the Customs Officers in the case.

SC direction on candidates contesting elections

*14. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY :

SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court of India in a recent judgment has ruled that a candidate willing to stand for elections must declare his/her assets and criminal antecedents, if any;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to give effect to this directive of the Supreme Court?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHI: (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Supreme Court of India has issued directions to the Election Commission of India to direct the candidates to furnish the following informations in an affidavit as part of their nomination papers:

(i) Whether the candidate is convicted/acquitted/discharged of any criminal offence in the past if any, whether he is punished with imprisonment or fine.

(ii) Prior to six months of filing of the nomination, whether the candidate is accused in any pending case, of any offence punishable with imprisonment for two years or more, and in which charge is framed or cognizance is taken by the court of law. If so, the details thereof.

(iii) The assets (immovable, movable, bank balance etc.) of candidate and of his/her spouse and that of his dependents.